5. M/s. Photon Energy Systems Limited
Plot No. 775-K, Road No. 45 Jubilee
Hills Hyderabad - 500 033

Grants from UN for Projects in Andhra Pradesh

717. SHRI YADLAPATl VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects started in Andhra Pradesh with the help of United Nations Developments Programme fund during the last three years, years-wise;

(b) the grants received from UN from those projects and the amount provided by the union and stale governments; and

(c) the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Under United Nations Developments Programme (UNDP) a Global Environment Facility (GEF) assisted project on 'Development of High Rate Biomethanation Processes' being implemented by Ministry of Non- conventional Energy Sources, one project for biomethanation of liquid waste from slaughterhouse at M/s Al Kabeer Exports Ltd. Hyderabad was set up in Andhra Pradesh. The total cost of the project was Rs. 1 crore and it was installed and commissioned during the year 1997-98.

(b) For this project Rs. 20 lakhs was provided as central subsidy out of the UNDPGEF grant.

(c) The plant is generating about 3000 cum biogas per day, which is being used in the boiler as fuel.

Power Capacity Addition by Private Sector

718. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a capacity addition of 17588.5 MW constituting 43.7% of the capacity to be added during the 9th Plan is proposed to be in the private sector; and

(b) how this target is going to be achieved considering that the private sector was only able to add 1430.4 MW during the 8th Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) A capacity addition target of 40245.2 MW was envisaged for the power sector in the Ninth Plan out of which 17588.5 MW was to come from private sector. However, according to the Mid Term Appraisal carried out in July, 1999, a capacity addition of 28097.2 MW is expected to be achieved during the 9th Plan which includes a capacity of 8363 MW to be added through Private Sector. Out of this, a capacity addition of 3332.5 MW has been achieved by the Private sector till the end of January, 2000. Concerted efforts are being made to attain the revised balance target of 5030.5 MW for private sector during the remaining period of Ninth Plan. Some of the initiatives taken by the Government to promote private sector investments include streamlining of procedures, raising the level of foreign equity to 100% on the automatic approval route provided it does not exceed Rs. 1500 crores and setting up of a Crisis Resolution Group to resolve the 'last mile' problems of the Independent Power Producers.

Increase in Power Production from Hydro Sources

719. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is scope for increasing power production from hydro spurces;

(b) whether it is a fact that production of power from hydro sources has been given low priority;

(c) if so, the reasons for neglecting the environmentally the soundest source of production;

(d) to what extent Government will encourage private sector to produce power from hydro sources;

(e) has any package been formulated; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There is a scope for increasing power production from the hydro sources as only 22.39% of the total assessed hydro potential has been developed/ under development and the remaining 77.61% still remains to be developed. The main reasons for the slow development of hydro power include (i) Shortage of Funds and longer